

OUR MISSING DEPARTMENT.
HAVING been REPLENISHED with a large assortment of the latest EUROPEAN and AMERICAN NOVELTIES, we are prepared to execute orders for FANCY WORK with neatness and despatch, and at very moderate rates.

CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

The China Mail

Established February, 1843.

VOL. XLX. No. 9900.

七月一十年四九百八千英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1894.

日十月初十年午甲

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

Intimations.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

London.—F. Alcock, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. GEORGE STUART & CO., Cornhill. GORDON & GOUGH, Judges' Office, E.C. BATES & CO., 37, Wallbrook, E.C. SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street. W. M. WILLS, 151, Cannon Street, E.C. ROBERT WATKINS, 160, Fleet Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE:—MAYENNE, FAYER & CO., 16, Rue de la Grange Baudouin.

NEW YORK.—J. STEWART HAPPER, THE CHINIAN EVANGELIST OFFICE, 62, West 22d Street.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally:—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND:—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

GEYDON.—W. M. SMITH & CO., THE APOTHECARY CO., Colombo.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—KELLY & WALSH, LTD., Singapore.

CHINA.—MUNOZ, A. A. de CRUZ, Ames, N. MOLES & CO., LIMA, Perou.

HABIB & CO., MAMOUR, LATE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Tokatoma, Lash, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & CO.

Banks.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, £1,000,000. SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors.

D. GILLIES, Esq. H. STOLTZENFOET, Esq. CHAN KEE SHAN, Esq.

KWAN HOI CHUEN, Esq. Chief Manager.

GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR. Interest for 12 months 5%.

Hongkong, October 23, 1894. 1711

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum. Depositors may transfer at their option balances of £100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK, to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 5 PER CENT. per annum.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, May 15, 1893. 1515

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1855. HEAD OFFICE, LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP, £2,000,000. RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-HOLDERS, £2,000,000. RESERVE FUND, £275,000.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account at the rate of 2% per annum on the Daily balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months 5% " " 6 " 4% " " 3 " 5% A. C. MARSHALL, Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, May 17, 1894. 825

THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN, T AND THE STRAITS, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £2,000,000. CAPITAL CALLED UP, 251,000.15.0.

Bankers:

CAPITAL & COUNTRIES BANK, LIMITED.

Head Office, 3, PRINCES STREET, LONDON.

Branches:

BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, HONGKONG & SHANGHAI.

Agencies:

FEIJAN, SINGAPORE AND YOKOHAMA.

RATES OF INTEREST Allowed on Current Accounts and Fixed Deposits can be ascertained on application. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

CHANTREY INCHBALD, Manager.

Hongkong, November 6, 1893. 247

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital, £10,000,000. Reserve Fund, £4,500,000. Liability of Proprietors, £10,000,000.

OFFICES OF DIRECTORS:—

O. J. HOLIDAY, Esq.—Chairman.

J. S. MOSES, Esq.—Deputy Chairman.

R. M. Gray, Esq. Hon. A. McConachie.

H. Hopkins, Esq. S. C. Michaelson.

H. H. Joseph, Esq. Esq.

Hon. J. J. Kewell, D. R. Sassoon, Esq.

Julius Kramer, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:—

Hongkong.—T. JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER:—

Shanghai.—H. M. BEVIS, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING CO., LTD.

HONGKONG.—INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—

For 3 months 3 per cent. per annum.

For 6 Months 4 " "

For 12 Months 5 " "

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, August 15, 1894. 933

Intimations.

To THE COMMUNITY OF HONGKONG.

AS it is desired to CLOSE the SUBSCRIPTION LISTS of the PLAGUE RECOGNITION FUND on MONDAY, the 12th November instant, all those who wish to subscribe are invited to do so on or before that date.

E. J. ACKROYD, Chairman of Committee.

Hongkong, November 6, 1894. 1787

HATS and BOOTS.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Adjustment of Bonus for the Year 1893.

SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company are requested to furnish the Underwritten with a List of their Contributions for the year ending 31st December last, in Order that the DISTRIBUTION of the PROFITS reserved for CONTRIBUTORS may be arranged. Returns not rendered prior to the 30th day of NOVEMBER next, will be adjusted by the Company, and no Claims or Alterations will be subsequently admitted.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Agents, Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, October 31, 1894. 1745

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Adjustment of Bonus for the Year 1893.

SHAREHOLDERS are hereby requested to send in to this Office a List of their Contributions for the year ending 31st December last, in Order that the Proportion of PROFIT for that year to be PAID AS BONUS to CONTRIBUTORS may be arranged. Returns not sent in before the 30th instant will be made up by the Company, and no subsequent Claims or Alterations will be allowed.

By Order of the Directors,

JAS. B. COUGHTRE, Secretary.

Hongkong, November 1, 1894. 1764

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

1893 ACCOUNT.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

A Final DIVIDEND of 85 per SHARE has this Day been declared. WARRANTS will be issued on MONDAY, the 22nd instant.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Agents, CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

Hongkong, October 20, 1894. 1696

N O T I C E .

THE Undersigned are prepared to GIVE ESTIMATES for Fitting the PATENT PROCESS on Land and MARINE BOILERS for Burning CHARCOAL AND COAL DUST.

GORDON & CO., BOWKING FOUNDERS, East Point.

Hongkong, August 20, 1894. 1348

CHAS. J. GAUFF & CO., Chronometer, Watch & Clock Makers, Jewellers, Gold & Silversmiths.

NAUTICAL SCIENTIFIC AND METEOROLOGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

VESTED & CALIBRATED BINOCULARS AND TELESCOPES.

ROTHÉE'S LUCID & OTHER COMPASSES, ADMIRALTY & IMPERIAL CHARTS, NAUTICAL BOOKS.

English SILVER & ELECTRO-PLATED WARE, CHRISTIE & CO.'S ELECTRO-PLATED WARE, GOLD & SILVER JEWELLERY.

In great VARIETY.

DIAMOND JEWELLERY, AND OTHERS.

A. C. MARSHALL, Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, May 17, 1894. 825

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Hongkong, November 6, 1893. 247

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CHIEF MANAGER:—

Hongkong.—T. JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER:—

Shanghai.—H. M. BEVIS, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING CO., LTD.

HONGKONG.—INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—

For 3 months 3 per cent. per annum.

Entertainments.

THEATRE ROYAL,

CITY HALL.

Under the Patronage and in the Presence of
Major-General BARKER, O.B., and
Commander BOYES, R.N.SIGNOR GATTANEO has the honour to
announce that, with the kind Assistance
of Signor FRANCESCOINI, leading
Tenor of the Italian Opera, Macilia, his
Puriss., and several LADY and GENTLEMAN
AMATEURS

A GRAND CONCERT

will be given
IN AID OF THE FRENCH CONVENT,
TO-NIGHT

(WEDNESDAY, 7th November, 1894.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1.—La Carita, by Rossini, for Soprano,

Alto, and Chorus.

Mrs. Alford,

Mrs. Preston,

Mrs. Cattaneo,

Mrs. May Mr. D. K. SLIMAN

Mrs. Cattaneo Mr. A. Wood

Mrs. McLean Mr. F. D. MacLean

Mrs. Dowdell Mr. J. C. Berger

Mrs. Master Mr. F. Lammet

Mrs. Maitland Mr. E. W. Maitland

Mrs. Jackson Mr. C. H. Grace

Mrs. Barker Mr. F. H. May

Mrs. Jackson Mr. S. B. Benjamin

Mrs. Preston Mr. J. F. Kraal.

2.—Song for Bass—

Lascia ch' piango, Mr. S. S. BENJAMIN

by Handel.

3.—Ballata for Soprano—

Guarany, by Signor

Gomez.

4.—Recitative and

Air for Baritone—

She alone charms

my sadness, Irene,

by Gounod.

5.—Waiting Song

for Soprano, by

Millard.

6.—Salve domine, for

Tenor, Faust, by

Signor

Gounod.

7.—Duet, Una nota

a Venezia, for Soprano

and

Tenor, by Marchetti.

Accompanists—Miss BOYES and

Mr. Cattaneo.

PART II.

1.—Torando, Song, Mr. C. H. Grace

from Carmen, by

Bizet, and Chorus.

2.—Song for Contralto, Heaven and

Earth, by Piniatti.

3.—Song for Tenor

by Piniatti.

—I heard a Voice,

4.—Song for Soprano

Should he up

braid, by Bishop...

5.—Song for Basso,

from Il Reggente, Mr. J. F. KRAAL

by Verdi.

6.—Song for Soprano

—Pierrot, by Hut-

chison.

7.—Duet, from Ruy

Bias, for Soprano and

Tenor, by Marchetti.

Accompanists—Miss BOYES and

Mr. Cattaneo.

PRICES—

Dress Circle and Stalls ... \$2.00

Body of House 1.00

Back Seats 50

PLAN of Theatre at Messrs KELLY &

WALSH, where Tickets may be had.

The Train can run to the Peak

fifteen minutes after the Performance.

Hongkong, November 7, 1894. 1744

THE CHINESE TWINS, TWO BOYS

JOINED TOGETHER, have arrived

from SHANGHAI, and will be ON VIEW

on the Firm Floor of No. 49, QUEEN'S ROAD

CENTRAL, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Entrance from Queen's Road only.

Admission—20 Cents.

Hongkong, October 16, 1894. 1630

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship
Nanyang, Capt. The LEHMANN, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 8th inst., at 4 p.m., instead of as previously notified.

For Freight or Passage to

SIEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong, November 7, 1894. 1783

SHELL LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG.
(Taking Corp. at through rates to CONTINENTAL PORTS, GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS).

The Co.'s Steamship

Vulcan,

Capt. E. STOTT, will be despatched as above on

FRIDAY, the 9th Instant, at Noon.

For Freight, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, November 7, 1894. 1791

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP AND RAILROAD COMPANIES.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

TICKETS, Tuesday December 11.

S.S. Tuesday Jan. 1895.

VICTORIA, Tuesday Jan. 22/95.

TACOMA, Tuesday Feb. 26/95.

S.S. Tuesday March 19/95.

VICTORIA, Tuesday April 9/95.

TIME Steamship TACOMA, Captain V.

PRINCE,

arriving at Noon, on TUESDAY,

the 11th December, will proceed to VICTORIA, B.C., and TACOMA and SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Japan, Pacific Coast Points, and to Canadian and United States Points.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Points should be in quadruplicate; and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the care of The Freight Agent, Northern Pacific Railroad, Tacoma, Wash.

Parcels must be sent to our Office with address marked in full by 5 p.m., on the day previous to sailing.

For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to

DODWELL, CARRILL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, November 7, 1894. 1792

To-day's Advertisements.

HARMSTON'S GRAND CIRCUS

AND
ROYAL MENAGERIE OF PERFORMING ANIMALS.

AT WEST POINT.

To-day's Advertisements.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have been instructed by the SENIOR ORDNANCE STORE OFFICER, China, to Sell by Public Auction,

TO-MORROW, the 8th November, 1894, at 11 a.m., at Her Majesty's Ordnance Stores, Queen's Road East,

THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT STORES, ETC., ARMOURED FORCE 4 MINER'S WAGONS, HORSE BLANKETS, BLAST, COPPER GUN METAL JUNK, LINE, TENT DRICK COTTON BLW WOOLLEN BLW, CANVAS, COAT AND WROUGHT IRON, STEEL, 16 IN. OLD FILES, CASES, PACKING CASES, JARS, IRON DRUMS, COPPER LININGS, WATERPROOF BAGS, LANTERNS, TOOLS, TIMBER, LEATHER, &c., &c., &c.

A QUANTITY OF WORN-OUT CLOTHING.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash on delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.17. All faults and errors of description at Purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer. All Lots to be cleared within 48 hours.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Auctioneers.

Hongkong, November 7, 1894. 1788

ITS ADVERTISEMENTS TO THE LETTER FULFILLED.

IT IS A MAGNET TO THE WISE & GOOD.
MORAL AS MIGHTYAS PURE AS GREAT.
INCOMPARABLY THE BIGGEST,
BEST, AND SQUAREST UNION OF POPULAR INSTRUCTION

AND AMUSEMENT EVER SEEN HERE, OR

THAT WILL COME AGAIN.

ALL GREAT ARTISTS,
EVERY EVENING, AT 9 P.M.

MATINEES EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS.

Doors open at 2, Commence at 3. sharp.

Children Half price to all parts of the Circus.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Boxes of 6 Chairs \$12.00

Single Seats \$1.00

Dress Circle Chairs 1.50

Stalls, Carpet Seats 50

Gallery (for Chinese only) 30

BOX PLAN AT KELLY & WALSH'S,

where Seats can be reserved.

ROBERT LOVE,

Manager.

S. RIBUCH,

General Agent.

Hongkong, November 7, 1894. 1790

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY,

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

FOR KOBE (DIRECT).

The Co.'s Steamship

Posidon,

Capt. A. FELLNER, will

leave for the above place

on or about WEDNESDAY, the 14th Inst.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SANDER & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, November 7, 1894. 1789

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND

HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

City of Peking (via Nagasaki, Kobe, WEDNESDAY, Nov. 28, at daylight,

Inland Sea and Yokohama),

China (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, and Yokohama) and Honolulu, Saturday, Dec. 12, at daylight.

Per (via Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, and Yokohama) and Honolulu, Saturday, Dec. 29, at daylight.

Sensitized Albumenized

To Depart.

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Shipping.

Noon.—Bomber leaves for Shanghai.

Noon.—English Mail leaves for Peking.

4 p.m.—Nanyang leaves for Shanghai.

Auctions.

11 a.m.—Auction of Sundries at H.M.'s

Ordnance Stores, Queen's Road East.

Amusements.

9 p.m.—Harmon's Grand Circus, &c.,

at West Point

We notice that Paymaster and Honorary Capt. G. K. Moore, Hongkong, is granted the honorary rank of Major.

We hear from an expert in fire-arms (says the *Peking and Tientsin Times*) that a number of spurious Winchester repeaters, made either on the continent or in Canton, were sent North some months ago. They take no known cartridge, and if the ordinary Winchester .44 is used in them the case bursts and jams the action. We therefore advise all foreigners to examine their Winchesters and test them by actual firing, unless they are certain they are from the Winchester Arms Company and are thoroughly reliable weapons. There are some who persist in procuring cheap arms which at any moment may become useless, and even dangerous, to the user; consequently, the manufacture of low class articles is far in excess of those of table quality.

In a Scotch paper published within forty miles of Balmoral a writer gives a graphic description of the recent bazaar held at the Queen's Highland residence. We tell the following sentence simply because they correct a current but mistaken notion that the kilt is the national dress of the people north of the Tweed, a notion which receives some show of justification by the annual unearthly of tartan at the St. Andrew's Ball. — 'The noblest study of mankind,' says Pope, 'is man,' and man was there to be studied, not only in his own form, but even in a new guise, for the 'new woman' was there. Alone and apparently unsympathetic with, she calmly strolled through the crowd, but I must say I did not admire the general effect, chiefly because they didn't seem well made and fitted badly. A most variegated crowd it was! The kilt of the Londoner mingled with the ordinary tweed clothing of the Scot; the gossy tail of Regent Street overtopped the deer-stalker cap; the white turbans of Mungshu Abdul Karim and the Queen's Hindoo servants announced the approach of Mr. Sted's grand federalisation of the peoples of the world.

A FOOTBALL team of Englishmen was started last year at Brussels, and this is the report in a Belgian paper:— 'A vigorous kick announces the beginning of the game. A number of young men are at once seen rolling on the ground. As soon as one of the players, bruised andaborred, seizes the ball, a mob pursues him, throws him over, buries him beneath a pile of arms and legs, and seizes by the pretious prey, which the brave fellow presents to his heart. 'The frenzied and brutal strife lasted more than an hour. Many passed by noticing the pitiful condition of the players, inquired if there had been an accident. "No, now whatever," was the reply, "it is only the English amusing themselves."

ALL sorts of rumours are afloat about large loans to the Chinese government by banks and financial firms, in sums of millions and tens of millions, in taels and sterling, on all sorts of security, from revenue to territory. Every description of influence is being brought to bear to obtain a slice of the huge sums mentioned, and all sorts of fingers and thumbs and noses by the pretious prey, which the brave fellow presents to his heart. These rumours will no doubt speedily reach Shanghai as facts in the veracious chronicles of the local correspondents of the evening papers. They may all turn out to be true some time or other, for at present the representatives in Tientsin of the magnates of finance in Europe are thick as blackberries. In fact if the report be anywhere near the truth there must be many people in this place at this moment who have grown suddenly rich and habit, and ought to go off at once to inhabit bony halls in their own countries, to make room for other aspirants to fortune. At present we withhold the important information we have received from more or less—generally less—inspired quarters, says the *P. and S. Times*, lest we should startle our readers and shake disastrously the European exchanges.

THE champion droll of the world has been again sighted, and it keeps afloat for less than another three months it will have been 'tramping' the North Atlantic for three whole years. The *Fannie E. Wolden* was abandoned on December 16th, 1891, off Cape Hatteras, whence she drifted eastward until the following June, when a current setting northward caught her. She got out of this current, and a year after her abandonment was sighted in lat. 31 deg. N., long. 33 deg. W. At the end of her second year this wandering Jew of the sea was not far south of Bermuda. Since then she has frequently been seen travelling very slowly down the neighborhood of the Bahama Islands, in the Gulf Stream. On June 1st last she was sighted only 150 miles east of the spot where she was abandoned by her crew 630 days before. Just now she is right in the path of United States and Brazilian vessels, and as her dents are swash, she is an object to be avoided. Her main deck and cabin are completely washed out, but it is remarkable that, despite her long crosswaze and the washing and tearing of the many storms in the region where she has been drifting, she has her quarters above the plank shear showing remarkably white, and the paint is in good order.

China, like Japan, says the *Standard*, is threatened by other dangers than those which directly affect her Armies and Fleets. To be defeated by barbarians like the English and French was serious enough. Defeat by the despised and hated Japanese may well produce results to the Empire that are at present beyond calculation. Certain of the provinces are always ripe for revolt, and the rumours of popular excitement in all directions now in from day to day. In former times local insurrections have been suppressed with recklessness bloodshed. It is recorded that in such cases every man, woman, and child of a populous town where dissatisfaction had shown itself were ruthlessly crucified on their own doors. But in the soldiery, who have usually been the agents of these atrocities, begin to show signs of disloyalty, it may be difficult to come out with remedies. News travels rapidly through China, but it is apt to spread quickly enough from camp to camp. Peas and indiscipline are very contagious disorders, and the impression on the public mind of what has been happening in the field may become a more potent agent in determining the future of the war than the actual achievement of Armies or Fleets. The drama that is unfolding itself behind the shadowy mists of specious and elaborate falsehoods, be- gins from day to day more interesting.

TYphoon in the China Sea.

The Spanish Consul courteously sends us the following telegram:—

MANILA, Nov. 7, 5 p.m.
During last night and this morning a depression crossed the Archipelago between ten and twelve degrees latitude in a direction from S.E. to N.W.

The Typhoon is now in the China Sea.

TELEGRAMS.

[SUPPLIED TO THE 'CHINA MAIL']

(Via Southern Line.)

LONDON, 6th November, 1894.

CHINA APPEALS TO THE POWERS.

China has formally appealed to the Powers to intervene in her quarrel with Japan and to restore peace. The various Cabinets are discussing the appeal. Great Britain and France are willing to co-operate, but decline to take the initiative.

FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

The Hovas having refused the French demands, an expedition of about 12,000 men will be sent to Madagascar.

THE CHINA-JAPAN WAR.

[SPECIAL TO THE 'CHINESE MAIL']

PORT ARTHUR BESIEGED AND BLOCKADED.

SHANGHAI, Nov. 7, 10 a.m.
Luishikun (Port Arthur) has been attacked by land and sea by the Japanese army and fleet.

The Chinese fleet is shut up inside Port Arthur.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF KWANG-TUNG PROVINCE.

A special telegram from Peking to the *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Yat Po*) announces that Ma Pi-ku is appointed Governor of Kwang-Tung, vice Kiang-Nai, promoted. H. E. Ma Pi-ku was Governor of Kwang-Tung during the Franco-China war.

JAPANESE ADMINISTRATION OF MANCHURIAN TERRITORY.

The following telegram was received in Hongkong this morning from Tokio:—

MR T. H. WHITEHEAD AS THE COLONIAL HAMPTON.

AN INDIAN CONTEMPORARY OF HONGKONG AFFAIRS.

A CRY for representative Government comes from the Far East; the Colonial Hampton, the Hon. T. H. Whitehead, having first raised it. It is Hongkong thus time which wishes a voice in the management of our own affairs, and to be treated as other British possessions are. Whereas five years ago the colony was founded on a barren rock, the abode of a few fishermen and pirates, it is now a city and settlement with upwards of a quarter of a million inhabitants, and a trade estimated annually at about forty million sterling; yet no form of government is practically the same, and it is claimed that the time has come for change. The whole interest of the colonists are, it is to be represented to the House of Commons, inextricably and permanently bound up in the colonial administration; the performances of the Government, the conduct of its business, and its treatment of the colony, in the efficiency of its executive, and soundness of its finance. They are allowed to take only a limited part in the government of the Colony, and are not permitted to have any real influence in the management of its affairs, external or internal. Being purely a Crown Colony, it is governed by a Governor, appointed by the Queen, and by an Executive and a Legislative Council. The former is composed wholly of Officers of the Crown, nominated and appointed by the Crown; the latter consists of seven official members, selected and appointed by the Queen, and five unofficial members, two of whom are nominated by certain public bodies in the colony, while the other three are selected by the Governor, and all are appointed by her. The Executive Council sits and deliberates in secret. The Legislative Council sits with open doors, and its procedure appears to admit of full and unfeared discussion, but it is alleged there is virtually no true freedom of debate. Questions are considered and settled, and the policy to be adopted by the Government in connection therewith is decided by the members being a majority—can secure the passing of any measure, in fact of any opposition to the policy of the Government, and the power to oppose it. The members are, however, to be represented to the House of Commons, in the efficiency of their administration, and their policy to be adopted by the Government in connection therewith is decided by the members being a majority—can secure the passing of any measure, in fact of any opposition to the policy of the Government, and the power to oppose it.

THE 'TIMES' CHINA CORRESPONDENT ON THE WAR.

Mr T. Cowen, of the Hongkong *China Mail*, who has been acting as *Times* correspondent for South China, arrived in Kobe, on his way to Tokyo, to obtain the credentials necessary for his duties at the seat of war, whether he has been ordered. We had the pleasure of a long interview with Mr Cowen, who has made a close study of Chinese matters, and, with his consent, have embodied the substance of his opinions in the following abstract of the interview in question. Mr Cowen's views, it will be seen, are strongly in favour of Japan; and their repetition in the columns of the *London Times* must have a good effect on English public opinion. That portion of English public opinion now adverse to Japan, Mr Cowen believes to have been created by the views of the Hon. G. N. Curzon. 'There is undoubtedly,' said Mr Cowen, 'a strong tendency among British statesmen to believe in the value of China as a buffer between Russia and Britain. And this feeling to some extent militates against an Anglo-Japanese entente. The recent work of the Hon. G. N. Curzon, the well-known member of Parliament, whose authority as an Asiatic traveller and by his leadership of British opinion on Eastern politics—strongly supports this view. Mr Curzon describes faithfully all the bad features of China, the national dishonesty, corruption, avarice, bitter short-sighted hate of foreigners, and their ways and doings in the direction of progress; and his belief in the wonderful character of the Chinese people, and in the wisdom of the Queen, in bringing her into the world. Sir Cowen gave a simple and attractive performance on the lofty trapeze. Mr. W. B. Harmston introduced her educated horse 'Gladstone,' who is more easily managed than his prototype. Nevertheless I shall try it; and I trust to be able to effect something. Curzon's book is clever, and shows—in addition to high literary ability—much accurate observation and a statesman's grasp of relations in the matter of foresight. It is a simple and wonderful book, considering that his personal knowledge of the East has been gained only in flying white. No one would dream of accusing his motives—he really believes in his country, not only to the British Empire. But the general impression created by his book is that Japan was in the wrong in beginning the war, that she was the aggressor and forced the war on, that she cannot hope to win, but is bound to suffer seriously, and that it is better for Britain that China should remain the victor, in order to prevent Russia from getting a Pacific naval station that shall be open all the year round, and so menace British interests in the East. That is the root of the matter—all civilised people, in Britain or other parts of the world, have a natural sympathy for Japan as the country that has so eagerly taken to civilization; but this honest sympathy is in danger of being deadened by the selfishness which, throughout the history of the world, has made Britain just as willing as any country to sacrifice its friends to save herself. Of course the spirit cannot be too strongly denounced, but no amount of denunciation will alter it.'

'If China is of any use in saving Britain from trouble with Russia, then the Japanese might be a rare angel unguessed at, but it would get no sympathy from British statesmen—no practical sympathy at any rate. Admitting then that Britain will moderately act on this basis of pure self-interest, the question arises whether her interests really will benefit by a Chinese

reign, like Japan, says the *Standard*, is threatened by other dangers than those which directly affect her Armies and Fleets. To be defeated by barbarians like the English and French was serious enough. Defeat by the despised and hated Japanese may well produce results to the Empire that are at present beyond calculation. Certain of the provinces are always ripe for revolt, and the rumours of popular excitement in all directions now in from day to day. In former times local insurrections have been suppressed with recklessness bloodshed. It is recorded that in such cases every man, woman, and child of a populous town where dissatisfaction had shown itself were ruthlessly crucified on their own doors. But in the soldiery, who have usually been the agents of these atrocities, begin to show signs of disloyalty, it may be difficult to come out with remedies. News travels rapidly through China, but it is apt to spread quickly enough from camp to camp. Peas and indiscipline are very contagious disorders, and the impression on the public mind of what has been happening in the field may become a more potent agent in determining the future of the war than the actual achievement of Armies or Fleets. The drama that is unfolding itself behind the shadowy mists of specious and elaborate falsehoods, begins from day to day more interesting.

THE CHINA MAIL.

It was not unnaturally anticipated that the war between China and Japan would seriously affect foreign commercial interests, and a demand for armed intervention might be looked for at an early stage of hostilities. But these fears have not been as yet realized. The foreign trade of Japan for September was 630 million yen, against 7,832 million yen for September 1893; and the imports of Japan for September 1893, as against yen 7,890 million yen for September 1892, were 10,016,521, as against yen 7,830 million yen for September 1891. The *Japan Advertiser*, from which we take these figures, points out that as yet even the foreign trade with China shows scarcely any serious falling off.

THE CHINA MAIL.

rather than a Japanese victory. That is just where I say Mr Curzon makes a mistake. Mr Curzon has seen that China is a huge country, that her population is enormous, that her wealth is of unknown vastness. He has seen something of her corruption, and says a good deal to show his appreciation of her weakness. But he utterly fails to realize the full weight of his own admissions. Even the great Li Hung-chang, whom, fulsome flatterer and simple honest nobility, put him at a level with Prince Bismarck, has from the earliest days of his power made that a huge gold-miner for his own family. From time immemorial it has been the recognized rule all over China, under whatever dynasty, that an official's salary should be just whatever he could earn, a fixed amount, and a penalty for getting a cent over.

From time to time, proclamations appear from various sources condemning extortion in highly fanciful terms, with sonorous names of high morality in correct classic diction; and occasionally a pretence is made, (sometimes, by accident, becoming a reality), of punishing some petty pedlar. Talk is cheap. The corruption and oppression will never be any better in the next thousand years than in the past, unless some better remedy be applied. The whole Chinese official will defend the system to the death; then death it must be before China reforms. And until she reforms, she will never have any real strength at all.

'How little she can even manage herself is shown by the Taiping rebellion, which would have overthrown the dynasty but for the interference of foreigners supporting a system two viles to be tolerated by a civilized people. How little China can resist an invader is now being proved by Japan; the race whom China despised, and whom the English called "children playing at civilization," is now leading the way. How ridiculous blunder it was to imagine China a Power in the world or an element of stability in the East. As no check to Russia, she is now shown to be worse than useless; and she will never improve herself. Her whole army of officials, her national character twisted and corrugated by the traditional dishonesty of centuries, can only be altered and purified by a huge shock. Some Hercules must pour over it in a Aegean stream. Whether the stream is to come from Japan, or from the Taiping-Kuohuai Triad, or the other elements of disruption that constantly menace the stability of this rotten Government—indeed whatever remedy time may bring—the fact remains that China in her present state is a hollow fraud, and is certain to collapse utterly at the first direct shock. It is therefore a stupid blunder for any Western Power to place any confidence whatever in this tottering monument of oriental stagnation.'

SIR EVELYN WOOD'S REMINISCENCES OF THE CRIMEA.

General Sir Evelyn Wood has been paying a visit to Sebastopol and its neighbourhood, which forms the subject of an article in the new number of *The Fortnightly Review*. Its title, *The Crimeans in 1854 and 1855*, will probably lead readers to expect a contrast between the peaceful air of that time and the scenes of carnage and death that followed. The article is well written, and the author has done his best to make the reader understand the nature of the war.

You're the General, sir; you're the General, Sir; and nothing more could be said up on the spot.

It was in these perilous days that he came to know and admire the fine qualities of his friend, Captain Peel.

THE BEGINNING OF A FRIENDSHIP.

I had been relieved, and was eating my ration—salt pork and biscuit—on one side of a gun, when a shell burst on top of a magazine on the other side of the gun. It

created some trepidation, although the danger of the powder exploding was remote unless another shell fell on the roof. The other exploded, and I fell into the gun.

Major Peel, 1st Lieutenant H. M. S. Diamond, was as brave as he was efficient, and responded without concern: "Ay, ay! I put it out!" but the shells were repeated, and I was eventually obliged to abandon my dinner, to stamp out the burning bags and fill up the crater made by the explosion. While so engaged, I fell some alongside helping him, but did not look up; for shells striking the parapet on either side, the position was not one in which I was inclined to linger, and thus did not notice it was Captain Peel till the work was done, when he ordered me down. This was the first time I had seen Captain Peel; he was a tall, thin, dark man, with a kindly face, and a smile that lit up his eyes. He was a good-looking man, and I liked him at once; but striking my shins till they bled freely on the swell of the ship, I had some difficulty in swimming to a boat which was moored to the stern ladder.

The boat was closely followed by the midshipmen, and there were twenty-five of us in mess, used to skyark, the favorite game being "follow my leader," which often ended in some one standing on the main truck. On this occasion, three of us had crawled up the main yard-arm down the brace, and I was resting on the after-brace block, level with the pump, when a mesmane, opening the quarter-galley window, called out "Boys!" to the crew, who, which I had been told, were mostly Chinese. The crew were twenty-five, and I was the only white man of them. They were all Chinese, and I just ran away, but striking my shins till they bled freely on the swell of the ship, I had some difficulty in swimming to a boat which was moored to the stern ladder.

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Mails.

Mails.

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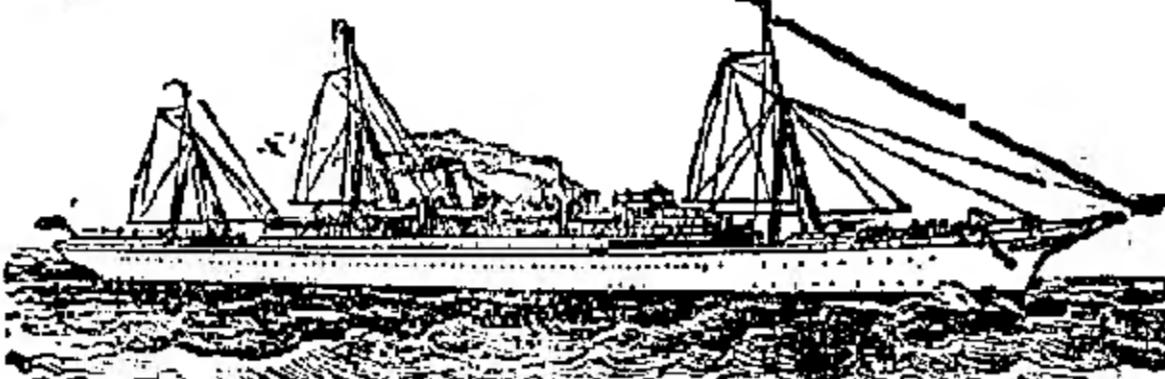
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